



**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Patent Application of

MAERTENS et al.

Atty. Ref.: 2551-130; Confirmation No. 5780

Appl. No. 10/685,435

TC/A.U. 1648

Filed: October 16, 2003

Examiner: Lucas

For: MULTI-MER PEPTIDES DERIVED FROM HEPATITIS C VIRUS ENVELOPE  
PROTEINS FOR DIAGNOSTIC USE AND VACCINATION PURPOSES

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Monday, May 2, 2005

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

**AMENDMENT**

Responsive to the Official Action dated December 30, 2004, entry and consideration of the following amendments and remarks are requested; the period for response having been extended up to and including Monday, May 2, 2005, by submission of the requisite petition and fee, attached.

**A Rule 181 Petition is being filed separately herewith for the Director to invoke his supervisory authority with regard to the restriction requirement. Consideration and decision on the attached Petition prior to further Action by the Examiner are requested as the most efficient means of prosecution and use of the resources of the Patent Office as well as resources of the applicants.**

05/03/2005 JADD01 00000039 10685435

01 FC:1251 120.00 OP  
02 FC:1202 450.00 OP